Distr.:
LIMITED

E/ECA/PSD.4/1
14 November 1985

Original: ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Fourth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 3-12 March 1986

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

LC/NAIRCA.

Plenary meeting

1. Opening address
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Preparations for the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on its African Economic Crisis
   (a) A Critical Review of the African Economic Situation
   (b) Africa's Priority Programme for Recovery: implementation at national, subregional and regional levels
5. Improving the management of African economies
6. Technical and financial assistance in planning, statistics, demography and informatics and documentation

Planning committee

7. Election of officers
8. Agricultural credit and resource mobilization in the rural sector
9. Sectoral planning in subregional co-operative arrangement
10. African multi-national enterprises, collective planning and economic co-operation
11. Subregional perspectives: the CILSS countries
12. Report on the implementation of short-term forecasting systems and multi-sectoral planning models
13. Institute of Economic Development and Planning
14. The African Planners Association
15. Report on ECA planning activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995
16. Adoption of the report

Statistics committee

17. Election of officers

18. The role of African statistical services in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action

19. Towards self-reliance in the development of statistical manpower

20. Report on statistical activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

21. African Statistical Association

22. Adoption of the report

Demography committee

23. Election of officers

24. ECA regional population training institutes (joint meeting of RIPS and IFORD Governing Councils)

25. Population dynamics in Africa

26. Report on population activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

27. Adoption of the report

Informatics and Documentation committee

28. Election of officers

29. Training of documentation and information scientists in Africa

30. Improving co-operation among information scientists

    (a) Association of documentation, information and library scientists in Africa;

    (b) Association of computer scientists in Africa

31. Report on activities of PADIS (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

32. Adoption of the report

Planning and Statistics (joint committee meeting)

33. Selected studies on:

    (a) Industrial capacity utilization in African countries;

    (b) Relationship between production and trade in African manufactured goods

Statistics and Demography (joint committee meeting)

34. Demographic data collection and analysis: Evaluation of the 1980 round of censuses in Africa

Planning and Demography (joint committee meeting)

35. Kilimanjaro Programme of Action in Population: Follow-up on its implementation

36. The role of national family planning programmes in the ECA member States

Planning, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

37. Issues in the dissemination of information for economic development planning

Statistics, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

38. Selected issues in the development of statistical data bases

Demography, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

39. Progress report on the population information network for Africa (POPIN-AFRICA)

Resumed plenary meeting

40. Other business

41. Consideration of the draft provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Joint Conference

42. Review of committee deliberations and summary of main conclusions

43. Report of the Joint Conference to the ECA Conference of Ministers

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Plenary meeting

1. Opening address

The Executive Secretary will open the fourth session of the Joint Conference with a statement.

2. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the plenary meetings of the Joint Committee.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda is based on the draft approved by the Joint Conference at its third session. It has been amended extensively to reflect developments since 1984 including the OAU Priority Programme. The Joint Conference may wish to modify the provisional agenda and/or the sequence in which the items should be discussed.

Documentation:

- Provisional agenda and annotations, E/ECA/PSD.4/1
- Provisional timetable for discussions, PSD.4/Inf.1
- General information for participants, PSD.4/Inf.2
- Provisional list of participants, PSD.4/Inf.3
- Provisional list of documents, PSD.4/Inf.4
- Matters arising from previous United Nations and ECA meetings, PSD.4/Inf.5
- Declarations and resolutions adopted by the twenty-first Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, AHG /Decl.1-3 (XXI); AHG/Res. 136-148 (XXI)
- Declaration on the Economic Situation in Africa adopted by the Twenty-First Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, AHG/Decl.1 (XXI)
- Second Special Memorandum by the ECA Conference of Ministers, International Action for Relaunching the Initiative for Long-term Development and Economic Growth in Africa, E/ECA/CM.11/77/Rev.1
- Recommendations of the ECA Conference of Ministers concerning the Economic Issues on the Draft Agenda of the Twenty-First Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, E/ECA/CM.11/80/Rev.1
- Annual Report of the Economic Commission for Africa, 1984-1985, E/1985/36; E/ECA/CM.11/81
- Report of the Third Session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, E/ECA/CM.10/24

4. Preparations for the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the African Economic Crisis

(a) A Critical Review of the African Economic Situation

The paper gives a critical and in-depth assessment of the African economic situation with special reference to the deepening of the crisis that has plagued most of the African countries, and which has been exacerbated by natural calamities and a worsening international economic environment. The paper analyses the basic critical areas in Africa's development process with special emphasis on the root-causes of the multi-faceted crisis. In this regard structural problems and constraints as well as economic policies are assessed with a view to outlining the basic elements of a solution in line with Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity. Further, the paper focuses on the major implications of the priority programme in terms of policy reforms, subregional and regional prioritisation of programmes and the international support measures.

Documentation:

A Critical Review of the African Economic Situation, E/ECA/PSD.4/2

(b) Africa's Priority Programme for Recovery: implementation at national, subregional and regional levels

(International support in addition to national, subregional and regional efforts in the implementation of the Priority Programme)

The paper gives the financial implications in each of the priority area identified in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, by individual country and by sub-regional organizations if applicable. Each country profile is introduced by a background on the rationale of the country Priority Programme and indicates for each programme the national effort under-way and planned, the external assistance pledged and partially or totally received and the financial gap. The document further attempts to identify the most affected countries in which the recovery process is particularly urgent and requires massive external support.

Documentation:

Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990: country and subregional organizations profiles, E/ECA/PSD.4/3

5. Improving the management of African economies: some problematic areas

Under this agenda item, the Conference will have before it document E/ECA/PSD.4/4. Improving the management of African economies : some problematic areas. There is a growing consensus that in the search for the possible causes of and the solutions to the economic and social crisis confronting Africa attention should focus on the management of the economy. Since national economic

management is itself a complex subject whose various elements cannot be covered adequately in a short paper, the present paper examines a selected number of critical areas where action is urgently needed for the accelerated attainment of the goals and objectives of development and economic growth that African governments have now set themselves. The areas covered are: measures for fruitful and sustainable collaboration and co-operation between government and other decision-making units in the economy, effective mobilization and utilization of financial resources, deepening knowledge of the natural resource/raw material base of the economy, keeping wealth-generating resources intact and productive and the role of foreign resources in the development and economic growth of Africa.

It is hoped that the issues raised are illustrative of the scope and direction of reforms needed to enhance improved management of the African economies. It should be noted that this agenda item was referred to the Joint Conference by the Conference of Ministers.

Documentation:

Improving the management of African economies : Some problematic areas, E/ECA/PSD.4/4.

6. Technical and financial assistance in planning, statistics, demography and informatics and documentation

The current situation and recent trends in technical and financial assistance in the five fields will be examined. The Joint Conference may wish to suggest improvements, particularly with respect to the co-ordination and effectiveness of these arrangements.

Documentation:

- ECA's technical assistance in planning, statistics, population and informatics and documentation, E/ECA/PSD.4/5.
- Technical and financial assistance in planning, statistics, demography, informatics and documentation, E/ECA/PSD.4/6.

Planning committee

7. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the meeting of the committee.

8. Agricultural credit and resource mobilization in the rural sector

The secretariat will present a study on «Agricultural Credit and the Mobilization of Resources in Rural Sector» in document E/ECA/PSD.4/7. The objective of the paper is to review the contribution made by formal financial institutions to enhance agricultural development particularly small holder cultivation. The paper discusses some major issues pertaining to the link

between credit, extension and marketing, interest rate structures, default, cost structures and resource mobilization problems of formal credit institutions. The study also proposes some strategies which could be adopted to cope with the problems of credit and resources mobilization in rural areas.

Documentation:

Agricultural credit and the mobilization of Resources in rural sector, E/ECA/PSD.4/7.

9. Sectoral planning in subregional arrangements

On the basis of selected co-operation structures in Africa (ECOWAS, CEAO, UDEAC, PTA and SADCC) the paper first surveys the link that exists between the objectives of the various subregional structures and the planning undertaken to achieve these objectives. In analysing sectoral planning the paper focuses on two sectors namely agriculture and industry. The analysis of the level and type of planning undertaken in each sector is, again, based on the experience of the selected co-operation structures. In each sectoral case, objectives and constraints of each subregion are identified along with the means adopted to achieve the objectives and to overcome the constraints. In this respect both sectoral plans if any, as well as implemented projects or those in progress are examined. The paper finally draws some lessons from the different experiences and makes some recommendations relevant for each sector.

Documentation:

Sectoral planning in subregional arrangements, E/ECA/PSD.4/8.

10. African multi-national enterprises, collective planning and economic co-operation

The paper focusses on the need to create a mechanism for the establishment of African multinational enterprises and its role in the economic development planning of African countries. The problems, constraints, harmonization and measures to promote their effectiveness are also discussed in the context of the need for collective planning and policy co-ordination and economic co-operation in Africa.

Documentation:

African multi-national enterprises, collective planning and economic co-operation, E/ECA/PSD.4/9.

11. Perspectives at the subregional level : the CILSS countries

In implementation of resolution 501 (XIX) which recommended the undertaking of perspective studies at the subregional level, the paper analyses the perspectives of economic development in CILSS countries. After reviewing briefly the socio-economic conditions in the 1973-1983 period, the paper describes the perspectives of the subregion for the period 1983-1988 on the basis of two scenarios : a historical scenario and a normative scenario whose objectives correspond to those of the Lagos Plan of Action.

Documentation:

Perspectives at the subregional level : the CILSS countries, E/ECA/PSD.4/10.

12. Review of progress in short-term forecasting and multisectoral planning models

The meeting will be invited to consider a progress report on the activities undertaken and problems encountered in implementing short-term forecasting and multi-sectoral planning models in the African region. The role of the informal sector, the transformation of technological coefficients, the incorporation of prices and other financial variables and the energy balance in African countries are some of the issues which will be raised for discussion. The report will also consider the establishment of short-term forecasting system in some African countries to enable them to devise and initiate short-term adjustment measures to combat internal and external economic disturbances.

Documentation:

Review of progress in short-term forecasting and multi-sectoral planning models, E/ECA/PSD.4/11.

13. African Institute of Economic Development and Planning

The meeting will be invited to consider a report on the activities of the Institute, elect members of its governing council and examine the future work programme.

Documentation:

Report on the African Institute of Economic Development and Planning, E/ECA/PSD.4/12.

14. The African Planners Association

A report presented by the Director of IDEP as requested by the Third session of the Conference will be submitted to the Joint Conference relating to the issues that need to be examined prior to the establishment of the African Planners Association. The Conference is expected to examine this report and make specific recommendations as to the creation of such an association.

Documentation:

Report on the establishment of an African Planners Association, E/ECA/PSD.4/13.

15. Report on ECA Planning Activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

The planning and socio-economic research activities in 1984-1985 will be reviewed. In addition the programme of work as adopted by the Tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers (19th session of the Commission) will be presented, the resources evaluated and the priorities set. Projections up to 1989 will also be discussed. The objectives, problems addressed and strategy to be used in the formulation of the medium-term plan 1990-1995 will also be considered.

Documentation:

Report on ECA planning activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995, E/ECA/PSD.4/14.

16. Adoption of the report

Statistics committee

17. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the meeting of the committee.

18. The role of African statistical services in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action

The uses of statistical data for plan appraisal, implementation, monitoring and revision are now well known. In this context, the background paper for this agenda item discusses the statistical data requirements for the implementation of the LPA, the role which national statistical services have to play in this activity, and statistical organization and the re-examination of statistical priorities required to achieve this.

Documentation:

- The role of African statistical services in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, E/ECA/PSD.4/15.
- The place of statistical information in the national information system, E/ECA/PSD.4/16.
- Problems of statistical organization and staffing in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/17.
- Establishment of statistical priorities, E/ECA/PSD.4/18.

19. Towards self-reliance in the development of statistical manpower

The secretariat will present a report evaluating the progress so far achieved by the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) in meeting the objective of self-reliance in the development of statistical manpower in the region. The issues to be addressed include a comparative analysis of the achievements and the statistical training needs of the region, the main problems encountered and the proposed solutions as well as the future work programme.

Documentation:

- Towards self-reliance in the development of statistical manpower, E/ECA/PSD.4/19.
- Report of the fourth meeting of Directors participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA), E/ECA/PSD.4/20.

20. Report on statistical activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

The secretariat will present a report on the implementation of the Biennium Work Programme (1985-1986) and invite the Committee to comment on the selected performance indicators. The meeting will also be invited to comment on the approved work programme for 1986-1987 and propose amendments where desirable. The first draft of the work programme narrative for 1988-1989 will also be presented for discussion.

The secretariat will also present its preliminary views on the objectives, problems to be addressed and the strategy to be followed in the formulation of the medium-term plan 1990-1995.

Documentation:

- Report on ECA statistical activities and future work programme, E/ECA/PSD.4/21.
- Report of the Workshop on Household Surveys, Lusaka, 1-6 October 1984, E/ECA/PSD.4/22.
- Reports of the Workshops in National Accounts for the English-speaking and the French-speaking African countries, Addis Ababa, 30 September - 11 October 1985, E/ECA/PSD.4/23.
- Report of the Working Group on the Development of Civil Registration Systems and Vital Statistics Collection in Africa, Addis Ababa, 21-26 October 1985, E/ECA/PSD.4/24.
- Statistical Information Bulletin, No.17, E/ECA/SIB/17.
- Directory of African Statisticians, E/ECA/PSD.4/25.
- Statistical Information Bulletin No.18, E/ECA/SIB/18 / E/ECA/PSD.4/26.

21. African Statistical Association

The secretarial will present a report of the ad hoc committee appointed by the Third session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers to organize the first elections of members of the Council of the African Statistical Association. A brief account of the activities undertaken by the Council will also be provided. It is expected that future deliberations on the affairs of the Association will take place at the ordinary General Assembly of the Association.

Documentation:

Report on the African Statistical Association, E/ECA/PSD.4/27.

22. Adoption of the report

Demography committee

23. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the meeting of the committee.

24. ECA regional population training institutes (joint meeting of the RIPS and IFORD Governing Councils)

This agenda item will review the operation of the two regional demographic training institutes, the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) and the Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD). As the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) has reduced its funding of the institutes and may continue to do so in the future, the paper addresses the problems faced by the institutes and proposes alternative solutions for the future of the institutes that would allow the African countries they serve, to become more fully involved in their management and financing. Given the continued need for demographic training facilities, the aim of the study is to assure the future existence of such facilities for the benefit of the African countries. The joint meeting of the RIPS and IFORD Governing Councils will be convened as recommended by the two Councils.

Documentation:

Future of the African Demographic Training and Research Institutes - RIPS (Accra) and IFORD (Yaounde), E/ECA/PSD.4/28.

25. Population Dynamics in Africa

This agenda item will deal with two main components of population dynamics, i.e. mortality and fertility. The most recent estimates will be presented to show the high levels still noticed in Africa. Other related issues like sterility and traditional practices of fertility regulation will be discussed. Coherent policies will be called for in order to improve the situation.

Documentation:

- Population Dynamics in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/29.
- Contribution of World Fertility Survey Programme to Knowledge about Population Dynamics in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/30.

26. Report on population activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

The secretariat will present a report on the implementation of the Biennium work programme (1986-1987). The meeting will also be invited to comment on the approved work programme for 1986-1987 and propose amendments where desirable. The first draft of the programme narrative for 1988-1989 will also be presented for discussion.

The secretariat will also present its preliminary views on the objectives, problems to be addressed and the strategy to be followed in the formulation of the medium-term plan 1990-1995.

Documentation:

Report on population activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995, E/ECA/PSD.4/31.

27. Adoption of the report

Information and Documentation committee

28. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the meeting of the committee.

29. Training of Documentation and Information Scientists in Africa

The problem of the lack of trained information scientists in Africa has been discussed in various international meetings. It has been argued by some that this problem is caused by the lack of suitable training schools in Africa. Only schools offering traditional librarianship exist. International organizations such as UNESCO are making efforts to improve the training facilities in Africa. The establishment of a regional centre for information science in the University of Ibadan in Nigeria is an example of such efforts. The Conference is therefore expected to consider in detail the content of training of documentation and information scientists in Africa.

Documentation:

Training of Documentation and Information Scientists in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/32.

30. Improving co-operation among information scientists

(a) Association of documentation, information and library scientists in Africa

Lack of co-operation among many information and documentation personnel in Africa has been mentioned as an obstacle to real progress in this field of activity. For their interests to be taken care of, an association for such scientists seems appropriate. The conference therefore will be expected to discuss this issue, and determine whether such an association has a role to play in the improvement of information flow in Africa.

Documentation:

Association of documentation information and library scientists in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/33

(b) Association of computer scientists in Africa

Proposals for the formation of an Association of Computer Scientists in Africa will be presented by the secretariat. This is in response to a request made at the Third Session of the Joint Conference.

Documentation:

Association of computer scientists in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/34.

31. Report on activities of PADIS (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

The Committee will consider a report E/ECA/PSD.4/35 on the activities of the PADIS project covering the period January 1984 to December 1985, the work programme for 1986-1989. In view of the fact that the preparations for the Medium-term plan 1990-1995 may start before the fifth session of the Joint Conference, the Committee will also be requested to examine the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995. Under this item the report of the first meeting of the Regional Technical Committee for PADIS will be presented

Documentation:

- Report on activities of PADIS (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995, E/ECA/PSD.4/35,
- PADIS Status Report, E/ECA/PSD.4/36.
- Report of the First Regional Technical Committee Meeting for PADIS, E/ECA/PSD.4/37.

32. Adoption of the report

Planning and Statistics (joint committee meeting)

33. Selected studies on:

(a) An assessment of industrial capacity utilization in African countries : A methodological framework for the measurement of excess capacity

The Third Session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers recommended that the ECA secretariat should undertake a preliminary research activity on the various problems associated with the under-utilization of industrial capacity in African countries. The study has been carried out by the secretariat to demonstrate the intensity of the phenomenon of excess capacity with particular emphasis on the kinds and causes for the wastage of factor inputs, especially capital, in manufacturing industries in Africa. A set of policy recommendations is spelt out along with a proposal on a methodology for measuring industrial capacity utilization and the mechanisms to be established to generate the requisite statistical data and other technical information pertinent to a clearer understanding of this dimension of productive efficiency. This «ideas» paper, therefore, is aimed at facilitating the deliberations of the Joint Conference and subsequently lead to a set of practical and action-oriented policy recommendations on the subject of excess capacity in Africa.

Documentation:

An assessment of industrial capacity utilization in African countries: A methodological framework for the measurement of excess capacity, E/ECA/PSD.4/38

(b) Relationship between production and trade in African manufactured goods

The paper attempts not only to throw light from a statistical point of view on the major links between production, apparent consumption, prices, external and intra-African trade of manufactured goods, but also to identify and analyse the short-comings affecting the data available. In view of the growing impact of manufacturing industries in the region and the emphasis placed on them in the Lagos Plan of Action, the Conference will be requested to identify priority areas and make general recommendations for bridging the existing gaps in the data as far as their relevance for policy formulation is concerned.

Documentation:

Relationship between production and trade in African manufactured goods, E/ECA/PSD.4/39.

Statistics and Demography (joint committee meeting)

34. Demographic data collection and analysis - evaluation of the 1990 round of population and housing censuses in Africa

Under this agenda item the secretariat will present a report reviewing the experience of the African region in the 1980 round of population and housing censuses. The report will put emphasis on the problems encountered during the various stages of the census operations from the planning and organization up to the analysis and dissemination of results. It is hoped that the outcome of the discussions on this agenda item will assist African countries in the 1990 round of population and housing censuses.

Documentation:

Evaluation of the 1980 round of population and housing censuses in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/40.

Planning and Demography (joint committee meeting)

35. Kilimanjaro Programme of Action in Population

The Kilimanjaro Programme of Action on Population and self-reliance development presents a comprehensive set of recommendations aimed at promoting sound population policies.

The Twenty-First OAU Summit endorsed and called for its implementation. This agenda item will address the implementation of the programme. Its main recommendations will be brought again to the attention of the conference which will suggest ways and means to assess the implementation of the programme and to suggest actions for appraising and monitoring this implementation in future. The particular responsibility of the African planners in promoting sound population policies will be stressed.

Documentation:

- Kilimanjaro Programme of Action in Population, E/ECA/PSD.4/41.

36. The role of national family planning programmes in the ECA member States

A paper will report on an evaluation of the demographic impact of population programmes in five countries, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Tunisia. It will examine some issues related to this evaluation, then present the demographic and the family planning objectives included in the population programmes and address the question of the impact of family planning actions on the demographic trends. The paper will conclude by some recommendations aimed at improving programme delivery.

Documentation:

The role of national family planning programmes in the ECA member States, E/ECA/PSD.4/42.

Planning, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

37. Issues in the dissemination of information for economic development planning

Lack of information in the planning process of many African countries has been mentioned as one of the main stumbling blocks to proper planning. The Lagos Plan of Action, also makes specific reference to the problem of lack of information for planning purposes. The emerging advanced information systems and the structural changes taking place in Africa are focussing attention on the role which information activities can play in modern economic development. There is therefore the need to create appropriate institutions for the transfer of information, in particular, the dissemination of scientific and technological information, which is regarded as a vital element in promoting the technological change so crucial to economic growth of African countries.

The Conference is expected to discuss some of these issues.

Documentation:

Issues in the dissemination of information for economic development, E/ECA/PSD.4/43.

Statistics, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

38. Selected issues in the development of statistical data bases

Selected issues, such as choice of data base management system (DBMS), uni- or multi-subject data bases, hardware and software considerations, the link between national and international statistical bases, encountered in the development of statistical data bases will be presented. The discussions which follow should be directed towards making recommendations for achieving a more effective implementation of this new technology which may provide invaluable socio-economic information support to development plan formulation and implementation.

Documentation:

Selected issues in the development of statistical data bases, E/ECA/PSD.4/44.

Demography, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

39. Progress report on the population information network for Africa (POPIN-AFRICA)

The secretariat will present a paper which will highlight the main activities undertaken on POPIN-AFRICA since January 1984 when the network was formally launched, as well as some of the problems encountered in its implementation. The activities planned to be carried out during 1986 to 1987 are also presented.

Documentation:

Progress report on the population information network for Africa (POPIN-AFRICA), E/ECA/PSD.4/45.

Resumed plenary meeting

40. Other business

The Joint Conference may wish to discuss matters not covered under other items of the agenda.

41. Consideration of the draft provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Joint Conference

42. Review of committee deliberations and summary of main conclusions

Chairmen who presided over committee meetings will make short verbal reports on the main conclusions reached at those meetings. Full details of the committee deliberations will be available under agenda item 43 when the Joint Conference considers its report.

43. Report of the Joint Conference to the ECA Conference of Ministers

The report of the Joint Conference on its fourth session will be prepared by the Rapporteurs with the assistance of the secretariat in accordance with the terms of reference.

Distr.:
LIMITED
E/ECA/PSD.4/1/Rev.1
3 February 1986
Original : ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Fourth session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 3-12 March 1986

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Plenary meeting:

1. Opening address
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Preparations for the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on its African Economic Crisis
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Planning committee

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16. Adoption of the report.

LC/NAIROBI.

Statistics committee

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(a) Association of documentation, information and library scientists in Africa;

(b) Association of computer scientists in Africa

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32. Adoption of the report

Planning and Statistics (joint committee meeting)

33. Selected studies on :

(a) Industrial capacity utilization in African countries;

(b) Relationship between production and trade in African manufactured goods

Statistics and Demography (joint committee meeting)

34. Demographic data collection and analysis : Evaluation of the 1980 round of censuses in Africa

Planning and Demography (joint committee meeting)

35. Kilimanjaro Programme of Action in Population : Follow-up on its implementation

36. The role of national family planning programmes in the ECA member States

Planning, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

37. Issues in the dissemination of information for economic development planning

Statistics, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

38. Selected issues in the development of statistical data bases

Demography, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

39. Progress report on the population information network for Africa (POPIN-AFRICA)

Resumed plenary meeting

40. Other business

41. Consideration of the draft provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Joint Conference

42. Review of committee deliberations and summary of main conclusions

43. Report of the Joint Conference to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Plenary meeting

1. Opening address

The Executive Secretary will open the fourth session of the Joint Conference with a statement.

2. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the plenary meetings of the Joint Conference.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda is based on the draft approved by the Joint Conference at its third session. It has been amended extensively to reflect developments since 1984 including the OAU Priority Programme. The Joint Conference may wish to modify the provisional agenda and/or the sequence in which the items should be discussed.

Documentation :

- Provisional agenda and annotations, E/ECA/PSD.4/1/Rev.1
- Provisional timetable for discussions, PSD.4/Inf.1
- General information for participants, PSD.4/Inf.2
- Provisional list of participants, PSD.4/Inf.3
- Provisional list of documents, PSD.4/Inf.4
- Matters arising from previous United Nations and ECA meetings, PSD.4/Inf.5
- Declarations and resolutions adopted by the twenty-first Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, AHG/Decl.1-3 (XXI); AHG/Res. 136-148 (XXI)
- Declaration on the Economic Situation in Africa adopted by the Twenty-First Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, AHG/Decl.1 (XXI)
- Second Special Memorandum by the ECA Conference of Ministers; International Action for Relaunching the Initiative for Long-term Development and Economic Growth in Africa, E/ECA/CM.11/77/Rev.1
- Recommendations of the ECA Conference of Ministers concerning the Economic Issues on the Draft Agenda of the Twenty-first Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, E/ECA/CM.11/80/Rev.1
- Annual Report of the Economic Commission for Africa, 1984-1985, E/1985/36; E/ECA/CM.11/81
- Report of the Third Session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, E/ECA/CM.10/24
- Review of the Progress Made in the Taking Into Account of the Objectives and Directives of the Lagos Plan of Action in the Development Policies of the African Countries, E/ECA/CM.11/73

4. Preparations for the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the African Economic Crisis

(a) A Critical Review of the African Economic Situation

The paper gives a critical and in-depth assessment of the African economic situation with special reference to the deepening of the crisis that has plagued most of the African countries, and which has been exacerbated by natural calamities and a worsening international economic environment. The paper analyses the basic critical areas in Africa's development process with special emphasis on the root-causes of the multi-faceted crisis. In this regard structural problems and constraints as well as economic policies are assessed with a view to outlining the basic elements of a solution in line with Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity. Further, the paper focuses on the major implications of the priority programme in terms of policy reforms, subregional and regional prioritisation of programmes and the international support measures.

Documentation :

A Critical Review of the African Economic Situation, E/ECA/PSD.4/2

(a) Africa's Priority Programme for Recovery: implementation at national, subregional and regional levels

(International support in addition to national, subregional and regional efforts in the implementation of the Priority Programme)

The paper gives the financial implications in each of the priority area identified in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, by individual country and by sub-regional organizations if applicable. Each country profile is introduced by a background on the rationale of the country Priority Programme and indicates for each programme the national effort under-way and planned, the external assistance pledged and partially or totally received and the financial gap. The document further attempts to identify the most affected countries in which the recovery process is particularly urgent and requires massive external support.

Documentation :

Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 : country and subregional organizations profiles, E/ECA/PSD.4/3

5. Improving the management of African economies: some problematic areas

Under this agenda item, the Conference will have before it document E/ECA/PSD.4/4. Improving the management of African economies : some problematic areas. There is a growing consensus that in the search for the possible causes of and the solutions to the economic and social crisis confronting Africa attention should focus on the management of the economy. Since national economic management is itself a complex subject whose various elements cannot be covered adequately in a short paper, the present paper examines a selected number of

critical areas where action is urgently needed for the accelerated attainment of the goals and objectives of development and economic growth that African governments have now set themselves. The areas covered are: measures for fruitful and sustainable collaboration and co-operation between government and other decision-making units in the economy, effective mobilization and utilization of financial resources, deepening knowledge of the natural resource/raw material base of the economy, keeping wealth-generating resources intact and productive and the role of foreign resources in the development and economic growth of Africa.

It is hoped that the issues raised are illustrative of the scope and direction of reforms needed to enhance improved management of the African economies. It should be noted that this agenda item was referred to the Joint Conference by the Conference of Ministers.

Documentation:

Improving the management of African economies: Some problematic areas. E/ECA/PSD.4/4.

6. Technical and financial assistance in planning, statistics, demography and informatics and documentation,

The current situation and recent trends in technical and financial assistance in the five fields will be examined. The Joint Conference may wish to suggest improvements particularly with respect to the co-ordination and effectiveness of these arrangements.

Documentation:

- ECA's technical assistance in planning, statistics, population and informatics and documentation, E/ECA/PSD.4/5.
- United Nations Technical Assistance to Development Planning, Statistics and Population in Africa, 1984-1985, E/ECA/PSD.4/6.

Planning committee

7. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the meeting of the committee.

8. Agricultural credit and resource mobilization in the rural sector

The secretariat will present a study on "Agricultural Credit and the Mobilization of Resources in Rural Sector" in document E/ECA/PSD.4/7. The objective of the paper is to review the contribution made by formal financial institutions to enhance agricultural development particularly small holder cultivation. The paper discusses some major issues pertaining to the link between credit, extension and marketing, interest rate structures, default, cost structures and resource mobilization problems of formal credit institutions. The study also proposes some strategies

which could be adopted to cope with the problems of credit and resources mobilization in the rural areas.

Documentation:

Agricultural credit and the mobilization of resources in rural areas, E/ECA/PSD.4/7.

9. Sectoral planning in subregional arrangements

On the basis of selected co-operation structures in Africa (ECOWAS, CEAO, UDEAC, PTA and SADCC) the paper first surveys the link that exists between the objectives of the various subregional structures and the planning undertaken to achieve these objectives. In analysing sectoral planning the paper focuses on two sectors namely agriculture and industry. The analysis of the level and type of planning undertaken in each sector is, again, based on the experience of the selected co-operation structures. In each sectoral case, objectives and constraints of each subregion are identified along with the means adopted to achieve the objectives and to overcome the constraints. In this respect both sectoral plans if any, as well as implemented projects or those in progress are examined. The paper finally draws some lessons from the different experiences and makes some recommendations relevant for each sector.

Documentation:

Sectoral planning in subregional arrangements, E/ECA/PSD.4/8.

10. African multi-national enterprises, collective planning and economic co-operation

The paper focusses on the need to create a mechanism for the establishment of African multinational enterprises and its role in the economic development planning of African countries. The problems, constraints, harmonization and measures to promote their effectiveness are also discussed in the context of the need for collective planning and policy co-ordination and economic co-operation in Africa.

Documentation:

African multi-national enterprises, collective planning and economic co-operation, E/ECA/PSD.4/9.

11. Perspectives at the subregional level : the CILSS countries

In implementation of resolution 501 (XIX) which recommended the undertaking of perspective studies at the subregional level, the paper analyses the perspectives of economic development in CILSS countries. After reviewing briefly the socio-economic conditions in the 1973-1983 period, the paper describes the perspectives of the subregion for the period 1983-1988 on the basis of two scenarios : a historical scenario and a normative scenario whose objectives correspond to those of the Lagos Plan of Action.

Documentation:

Perspectives at the subregional level : the CILSS countries, E/ECA/PSD.4/10.

12. Review of progress in short-term forecasting and multisectoral planning models

The meeting will be invited to consider a progress report on the activities undertaken and problems encountered in implementing short-term forecasting and multi-sectoral planning models in the African region. The role of the informal sector, the transformation of technological coefficients, the incorporation of prices and other financial variables and the energy balance in African countries are some of the issues which will be raised for discussion. The report will also consider the establishment of short-term forecasting system in some African countries to enable them to advise and initiate short-term adjustment measures to combat internal and external economic disturbances.

Documentation:

Review of progress in short-term forecasting and multi-sectoral planning models, E/ECA/PSD.4/11.

13. African Institute of Economic Development and Planning

The meeting will be invited to consider a report on the activities of the Institute, elect members of its governing council and examine the future work programme.

Documentation:

Report on the African Institute of Economic Development and Planning, E/ECA/PSD.4/12.

14. The African Planners Association

A report presented by the Director of IDEP as requested by the Third session of the Conference will be submitted to the Joint Conference relating to the issues that need to be examined prior to the establishment of the African Planners Association. The Conference is expected to examine this report and make specific recommendations as to the creation of such an association.

Documentation:

Report on the establishment of an African Planners Association, E/ECA/PSD.4/13.

15. Report on ECA Planning Activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

The planning and socio-economic research activities in 1984-1985 will be reviewed. In addition the programme of work as adopted by the Tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers (19th session of the Commission) will be presented, the resources evaluated and the priorities set. Projections up to 1989 will also be discussed. The objectives, problems addressed and strategy to be used in the formulation of the medium-term plan 1990-1995 will also be considered.

Documentation :

Report on ECA planning activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995, E/ECA/PSD.4/1[4].

16. Adoption of the report

Statistics committee

17. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the meeting of the committee.

18. The role of African statistical services in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action

The uses of statistical data for plan appraisal, implementation, monitoring and revision are now well known. In this context, the background paper for this agenda item discusses the statistical data requirements for the implementation of the LPA, the role which national statistical services have to play in this activity, and statistical organization and the re-examination of statistical priorities required to achieve this.

Documentation :

- The role of African statistical services in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action, E/ECA/PSD.4/15.
- The place of statistical information in the national information system, E/ECA/PSD.4/16.
- A review of statistical organization and staffing problems in Africa, including an assessment of the effectiveness of national statistical services, E/ECA/PSD.4/17.
- The establishment of an African list of statistical priorities, E/ECA/PSD.4/18.

19. Towards self-reliance in the development of statistical manpower

The secretariat will present a report evaluating the progress so far achieved by the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA) in meeting the objective of self-reliance in the development of statistical manpower in the region. The issues to be addressed include a comparative analysis of the achievements and the statistical training needs of the region, the main problems encountered and the proposed solutions as well as the future work programme.

Documentation :

- Towards self-reliance in the development of statistical manpower, E/ECA/PSD.4/19.
- Report of the fourth meeting of Directors of Centres participating in the Statistical training programme for Africa (STPA), E/ECA/PSD.4/20.
- Guide Syllabus for professional level statistical training for English-speaking countries, E/ECA/PSD.4/60.
- Programme type pour la formation statistique de niveau superieur (pays francophone), E/ECA/PSD.4/61.

20. Report on statistical activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

The secretariat will present a report on the implementation of the Biennium Work Programme (1985-1986) and invite the Committee to comment on the selected performance indicators. The meeting will also be invited to comment on the approved work programme for 1986-1987 and propose amendments where desirable. The first draft of the work programme narrative for 1988-1989 will also be presented for discussion.

The secretariat will also present its preliminary views on the objectives, problems to be addressed and the strategy to be followed in the formulation of the medium-term plan 1990-1995.

Documentation:

- Report on Statistical Activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995, E/ECA/PSD.4/21.
- Report of the Workshop on Household Surveys, Lusaka, 1-6 October 1984, E/ECA/PSD.4/22.
- Rapport sur l'atelier de formation en comptabilite nationale Addis-Abeba, 30 septembre - 11 octobre 1985, E/ECA/PSD.4/23
- Report of the Working Group on the Development of Civil Registration Systems and Vital Statistics Collection in Africa, Addis Ababa, 21-26 October 1985, E/ECA/PSD.4/24.
- Statistical Information Bulletin, No. 17, E/ECA/SIB/17.
- Statistical Information Bulletin No. 18, E/ECA/SIB/18.
- Directory of African Statisticians, E/ECA/PSD.4/25.
- Production, domestic use and trade in industrial raw materials, E/ECA/PSD.4/26.
- Report of the regional survey of external trade statistics, E/ECA/PSD.4/49.
- Transport prices in African consumer price indices : Some guidelines, E/ECA/PSD.4/50.
- Bibliography of African Statistical Publications, 1982-1985, E/ECA/PSD.4/51.
- Progress in the implementation of the national accounts capability programme, E/ECA/PSD.4/52.
- Local processing of raw materials for export, E/ECA/PSD.4/53.
- Analysis of food production and imports, E/ECA/PSD.4/54.
- Developing and improving distribution statistics, E/ECA/PSD.4/55.
- Report of the Training Workshop on National Accounts for English-speaking African countries, Addis Ababa, 30 September - 11 October 1985, E/ECA/PSD.4/56.
- Progress on the implementation of the United Nations system of national accounts and uses of data in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/58.
- Progress of the international comparison project in the African region, E/ECA/PSD.4/59.
- Possible approaches to the integration of derographic, social and related economic statistics in development planning in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/63.
- Recent experiences in census cartography in the countries of the Central African Customs and Economic Union (UDEAC), E/ECA/PSD.4/64.

21. African Statistical Association

The secretariat will present a report of the ad hoc committee appointed by the Third session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers to organize the first elections of members of the Council of the African Statistical Association. A brief account of the activities undertaken by the Council will also be provided. It is expected that future deliberations on the affairs of the Association will take place at the ordinary General Assembly of the Association.

Documentation:

Report on the African Statistical Association, E/ECA/PSD.4/27.

22. Adoption of the report

Demography committee

23. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the meeting of the committee.

24. ECA regional population training institutes (joint meeting of the RIPS and IFORD Governing Councils)

This agenda item will review the operation of the two regional demographic training institutes, the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) and the Institut de Formation et de Recherche démographiques (IFORD). As the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) has reduced its funding of the institutes and may continue to do so in the future, the paper addresses the problems faced by the institutes and proposes alternative solutions for the future of the institutes that would allow the African countries they serve, to become more fully involved in their management and financing. Given the continued need for demographic training facilities, the aim of the study is to assure the future existence of such facilities for the benefit of the African countries. The joint meeting of the RIPS and IFORD Governing Councils will be convened as recommended by the two Councils.

Documentation:

Future of the African Demographic Training and Research Institutes - RIPS (Accra) and IFORD (Yaounde), E/ECA/PSD.4/28.

25. Population Dynamics in Africa

This agenda item will deal with two main components of population dynamics, i.e. mortality and fertility. The most recent estimates will be presented to show the high levels still noticed in Africa. Other related issues like sterility and traditional practices of fertility regulation will be discussed. Coherent policies will be called for in order to improve the situation.

Documentation:

- Population Dynamics in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/29.
- Contribution of World Fertility Survey Programme to Knowledge about Population Dynamics in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/30.

26. Report on population activities (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1989) with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

The secretariat will present a report on the implementation of the Biennium work programme (1985-1986). The meeting will also be invited to comment on the approved work programme for 1986-1987 and propose amendments where desirable. The first draft of the work programme narrative for 1988-1989 will also be presented for discussion.

The secretariat will also present its preliminary views on the objectives, problems to be addressed and the strategy to be followed in the formulation of the medium-term plan 1990-1995.

Documentation:

Report on population activities (1984-1985) and examination of programme of wor (1986-1987) with projections up to 1995, E/ECA/PSD.4/31.

27. Adoption of the report

Information and Documentation committee

28. Election of officers

A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur will be elected for the meeting of the committee.

29. Training of Documentation and Information Scientists in Africa

The problem of the lack of trained information scientists in Africa has been discussed in various international meetings. It has been argued by some that this problem is compounded by the lack of suitable training schools in Africa. Only schools offering traditional librarianship exist. International organizations such as UNESCO are making efforts to improve the training facilities in Africa. The establishment of a regional centre for information science at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria is an example of such efforts. The Conference is therefore expected to consider in detail the content of training of documentation and information scientists in Africa.

Documentation:

Training of Documentation and Information Scientists in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/32.

30. Improving co-operation among information scientists

(a) Association of documentation, information and library scientists in Africa

Lack of co-operation among many information and documentation personnel in Africa has been mentioned as an obstacle to real progress in this field of activity. For their interests to be taken care of, an association for such scientists seems appropriate. The conference therefore will be expected to discuss this issue, and determine whether such an association has a role to play in the improvement of information flow in Africa.

Documentation:

Association of documentation information and library scientists in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/33.

(b) Association of computer scientists in Africa

Proposals for the formation of an Association of Computer Scientists in Africa will be presented by the secretariat. This is in response to a request made at the Third session of the Joint Conference.

Documentation:

Association of computer scientists in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/34.

31. Report on activities of PADIS (1984-1985) and examination of work programme (1986-1987)with consideration of the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995

The Committee will consider a report E/ECA/PSD.4/35 on the activities of the PADIS project covering the period January 1984 to December 1985, the work programme for 1986-1987. In view of the fact that the preparations for the Medium-term plan 1990-1995 may start before the fifth session of the Joint Conference, the Committee will also be requested to examine the objectives, problems to be addressed and strategy for the period 1990-1995. Under this item the report of the first meeting of the Regional Technical Committee for PADIS will be presented.

Documentation:

- Report on activities of PADIS (1984-1985) and
- **Report on the activities of PADIS (1984-1985) and programme of work for 1986-1987, E/ECA/PSD.4/35.**
- **PADIS Status report, E/ECA/PSD.4/36.**
- Report of the First **meeting of the regional technical committee for PADIS**, E/ECA/PSD.4/37.

32. Adoption of the report

Planning and Statistics (joint committee meeting)

33. Selected studies on:

(a) An assessment of industrial capacity utilization in African countries A methodological framework for the measurement of excess capacity

The Third session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers recommended that the ECA secretariat should undertake a preliminary research activity on the various problems associated with the under-utilization of industrial capacity in African countries. The study has been carried out by the secretariat to demonstrate the intensity of the phenomenon of excess capacity with particular emphasis on the kinds and causes for the wastage of factor inputs, especially capital, in manufacturing industries in Africa. A set of policy recommendations is spelt out along with a proposal on a methodology for measuring industrial capacity utilization and the mechanisms to be established to generate the requisite statistical data and other technical information pertinent to a clearer understanding of this dimension of productive efficiency. This "ideas" paper, therefore, is aimed at facilitating the deliberations of the Joint Conference and subsequently lead to a set of practical and action-oriented policy recommendations on the subject of excess capacity in Africa.

Documentation:

An assessment of industrial capacity utilization in African countries: A methodological framework for the measurement of excess capacity, E/ECA/PSD.4/

(b) Relationship between production and trade in African manufactured goods

The paper attempts not only to throw light from a statistical point of view on the major links between production, apparent consumption, prices, external and intra-African trade of manufactured goods, but also to identify and analyse the short-comings affecting the data available. In view of the growing impact of manufacturing industries in the region and the emphasis placed on them in the Lagos Plan of Action, the Conference will be requested to identify priority areas and make general recommendations for bridging the existing gaps in the data as far as their relevance for policy formulation is concerned.

Documentation:

Relationship between production and trade in African manufactured goods, E/ECA/PSD.4/39.

Statistics and Demography (joint committee meeting)

34. Demographic data collection and analysis - evaluation of the 1990 round of population and housing censuses in Africa

Under this agenda item the secretariat will present a report reviewing the experience of the African region in the 1980 round of population and housing censuses. The report will put emphasis on the problems encountered during the various stages of the census operations from the planning and organization up to the analysis and dissemination of results. It is hoped that the outcome of the discussions on this agenda item will assist African countries in the 1990 round of population and housing censuses.

Documentation :

- Evaluation of the 1980 round of population and housing censuses in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/40.
- Adjustment of Errors in the reported age/sex data from African censuses, E/ECA/PSD.4/57.
- Résumé des travaux, Première partie: Atelier de formation sur l'exécution des recensements et l'utilisation de progiciels statistiques pour les pays africains francophones, Yaoundé (Cameroun): 1-26 octobre 1984. (ECA/STAT/TW/84/1)
- Résumé des travaux, Deuxième partie: Atelier de formation sur l'exécution des recensements et l'utilisation de progiciels statistiques pour les pays africains francophones, Yaoundé (Cameroun): 1-26 octobre 1984(ECA/STAT/TW/84/2)

Planning and Demography (joint committee meeting)

35. Kilimanjaro Programme of Action in Population

The Kilimanjaro Programme of Action on Population and self-reliance development presents a comprehensive set of recommendations aimed at promoting sound population policies.

The Twenty-first OAU Summit endorsed and called for its implementation. This agenda item will address the implementation of the programme. Its main recommendations will be brought again to the attention of the conference which will suggest ways and means to assess the implementation of the programme and to suggest actions for appraising and monitoring this implementation in future. The particular responsibility of the African planners in promoting sound population policies will be stressed.

Documentation :

Kilimanjaro Programme of Action in Population - Follow-up, E/ECA/PSD.4/41.

36. The role of national family planning programmes in the ECA member States

A paper will report on an evaluation of the demographic impact of population programmes in five countries, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Tunisia. It will examine some issues related to this evaluation, then present the demographic and the family planning objectives included in the population programmes and address the question of the impact of family planning actions on the demographic trends. The paper will conclude by some recommendations aimed at improving programme delivery.

Documentation :

Evaluation of family planning programmes in ECA member States, E/ECA/PSD.4/42.

Planning, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

37. Issues in the dissemination of information for economic development planning

Lack of information in the planning process of many African countries has been mentioned as one of the main stumbling blocks to proper planning. The Lagos Plan of Action, also makes specific reference to the problem of lack of information for planning purposes. The emerging advanced information systems and the structural changes taking place in Africa are focussing attention on the role which information activities can play in modern economic development. There is therefore the need to create appropriate institutions for the transfer of information, in particular, the dissemination of scientific and technological information, which is regarded as a vital element in promoting the technological change so crucial to economic growth of African countries.

The Conference is expected to discuss some of these issues.

Documentation:

Issues in the dissemination of information for economic development planning, E/ECA/PSD.4/43.

Statistics, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

38. Selected issues in the development of statistical data bases

Selected issues, such as choice of data base management system (DBMS), uni- or multi-subject data bases, hardware and software considerations, the link between national and international statistical bases, encountered in the development of statistical data bases will be presented. The discussions which follow should be directed towards making recommendations for achieving a more effective implementation of this new technology which may provide invaluable socio-economic information support to development plan formulation and implementation.

Documentation:

- Selected issues in the development of statistical data bases, E/ECA/PSD.4/44.
- Review of National Data Processing Capabilities in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/46.
- Directory of African Data Processing Centres, E/ECA/PSD.4/47.
- Directory of Electronic Data Processing Experts in Africa, E/ECA/PSD.4/48.
- Report of the Seminar on Statistical Data Base Development (for English-speaking African countries, 30 September - 4 October 1985, E/ECA/PSD.4/62.

Demography, Informatics and Documentation (joint committee meeting)

39. Progress report on the population information network for Africa (POPIN-AFRICA)

The secretariat will present a paper which will highlight the main activities undertaken on POPIN-AFRICA since January 1984 when the network was formally launched, as well as some of the problems encountered in its implementation. The activities planned to be carried out during 1986 to 1987 are also presented.

Documentation :

- Progress report on the population information network for Africa (POPIN-AFRICA), E/ECA/PSD.4/45.
- Population information network for Africa (POPIN-AFRICA) Advisory Committee meeting, First session, Addis Ababa, 17-19 December 1985, E/ECA/PSD.4/45/Add.1.

Resumed plenary meeting

40. Other business

The Joint Conference may wish to discuss matters not covered under other items of the agenda.

41. Consideration of the draft provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Joint Conference

42. Review of committee deliberations and summary of main conclusions

Chairmen who presided over committee meetings will make short verbal reports on the main conclusions reached at those meetings. Full details of the committee deliberations will be available under agenda item 43 when the Joint Conference considers its report.

43. Report of the Joint Conference to the ECA Conference of Ministers

The report of the Joint Conference on its fourth session will be prepared by the Rapporteurs with the assistance of the secretariat in accordance with the terms of reference.